Listing of the Claims:

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1.   (Previously Presented)   A method in a computer system for filtering unauthorized electronic mail messages that are sent by senders to a user, each sender having an identification, each electronic mail message including the identification of the sender, the method comprising:

providing a list of the identifications of the senders who are authorized to send an electronic mail message to the user;

for each of a plurality of electronic mail messages,

determining whether the sender of the electronic mail message is authorized by determining whether the identification of sender in the electronic mail message is in the provided list of the identifications of the senders who are authorized;

when the sender of the electronic mail message is determined to be authorized, storing the electronic mail message in a first folder designated for electronic mail messages received from authorized senders;

when the sender of the electronic mail message is determined to be not authorized, storing the electronic mail message in a second folder designated for electronic mail messages received from unauthorized senders, the second folder being optionally viewable by the user;

whereby the electronic mail messages are automatically stored in the appropriate folder based on whether the sender is authorized so that the user can view the first folder containing the electronic mail messages sent by authorized senders separately from the second folder containing the electronic mail messages sent by unauthorized senders.

2.   (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein when the user sends an electronic mail message to a recipient, the identification of the recipient is automatically added to the provided list of the identifications of senders who are authorized to send electronic mail message to the user.

3.   (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the provided list of the identifications of the senders is generated by adding the identification of senders of previously received electronic mail messages.

4.   (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the provided list of the identifications of the senders is generated by adding the identification of recipients of previously sent electronic mail messages.

5.   (Previously Presented)   A method in a computer system for filtering unauthorized messages, each message having a sender, the method comprising:

for each of a plurality of messages,

determining whether the sender of the message is designated as being authorized;

when the sender of the message is determined to be authorized, indicating that the message is from an authorized sender; and

when the sender of the message is determined to be not authorized, storing the message in a pre-designated location for messages sent by unauthorized senders, the pre-designated location being accessible by a mail recipient so that messages determined not to be authorized are optionally viewable by the mail recipient.

6.   (Original)   The method of claim 5 wherein the recipient of the messages can identify whether a message is authorized based solely on the indications.

7.   (Cancelled)

8.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 wherein the message is an electronic mail message and the pre-designated location is a folder.

9. (Original) The method of claim 5 including when displaying a list of messages, displaying a visual indication as to whether the message has been indicated as being sent from an authorized or unauthorized sender.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the visual indication is the dimming of the messages that are sent from unauthorized senders in the list of messages.

includes a list of authorized senders and wherein the determining whether the sender of the message is designated as being authorized includes determining whether the sender is in the list of authorized senders.

11. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the computer system includes a list of authorized senders and wherein the determining whether the sender of the message is designated as being authorized includes determining whether the sender is in the list of authorized senders.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the list of authorized senders is generated by adding the senders of the previously received messages to the list.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the list of authorized senders is generated by adding the recipients of the previously sent messages to the list.

14. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the list is shared by multiple users.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein when the recipient sends a message to an intended recipient, the intended recipient is added to the list as an authorized sender.

17.   (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 5 further comprising forwarding the message from an unauthorized user to another user.

18-19. (Cancelled)

20.   (Previously Presented) An electronic mail system comprising:

a receiving component that receives electronic mail messages that includes the identification of the sender of the electronic mail message;

an authorized sender list having the identification of senders who are authorized to send electronic mail messages; and

an authorization component that forwards electronic mail messages from the receiving component and that forwards the electronic mail messages to a predetermined folder when the identification of the sender of the forwarded electronic mail message is not in the authorized sender list, the predetermined folder being selectively viewable by a mail recipient.

21.   (Original)   The system of claim 20 including an updated authorized sender list component that adds the identification of each recipient of sent electronic mail messages to the authorized sender list.

22.   (Original)   The system of claim 20 including an updated authorized sender list component that scans previously received electronic mail messages and adds the identification of the sender to the authorized sender list.

23.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 20 wherein the predetermined folder comprises a junk mail folder.

24-28. (Cancelled)